

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 31 with the following amended paragraph:

FIGS. 18A-C illustrate a further alternative embodiment of the electrosurgical aspiration instrument 1810 of the present invention in which the active and return electrodes 1822, 1824 lie in the same plane at the distal end 1812 of elongate probe member or shaft 1834. The active and return electrodes are ~~substantially configured~~ configured substantially similarly such that the two conductors 1816 and 1826 are electrically coupled through shaft 1827 to the distal end 1812. Electrodes 1822 and ~~[[1834]]~~ 1824, which are shown as having the shape of a partial loop or prong, are electrically isolated by insulator 1828. Delivery of energy is equal to both electrodes such that an equal, bipolar effect occurs at the surgical site. Both electrodes extend from one side of aspiration aperture 1825 in shaft 1834 to a point across the aperture and return to the generator. One electrode serves as an active electrode and one electrode serves as a return electrode. It will be appreciated that either electrode may be an active or a return since the polarity of the power generator may be reversed. Because both electrodes are configured across the aspiration aperture 1825, clogging and blockage of the aperture is prevented or reduced.